



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

CECW-ON

13 FEB 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS  
AND DISTRICT COMMANDS

SUBJECT: Natural Resources Policy Letter 97-01--New Procedure  
For Certification of Professional Pest Management Personnel

1. Purpose. To implement new procedures to certify Professional Pest Management Personnel" (PPMP).

2. References:

a. Department of Defense (DOD) Instruction 4150.7-P, DOD Plan for the Certification of Pesticide Applicators, (Final Draft), September 1996.

b. DOD Plan for the Certification of Pesticide Applicators of Restricted-Use Pesticides, 8 December 1985.

c. Memorandum, U.S. Army Environmental Center, SFIM-AEC-ECN, 7 June 1996, subject: Survey of Army Certifying Officials; Revision of Army Certification Procedures.

d. Engineering Policy 1130-2-540, Environmental Stewardship Operations and Maintenance, Guidance and Procedures, Chapter 3-Pest Control Program For Civil Works Projects, 15 November 1996

3. Reference 2.a. was recently approved by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology and is awaiting publication by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register. This document will supersede the earlier certification plan (reference 2.b) which has been in effect since 1985. In addition the DOD released Instruction 4150.7, "DOD Pesticide Management Plan", on 22 April 1996. The Army is also in the process of developing guidance that will mirror the DOD Instructions (Reference 2.c). Although the proposed new DOD and Army guidance (addressing certification) state that the documents do not apply to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works), the Corps will follow the DOD Plan for the certification of Corps (Civil Works) employees involved in restricted use pesticide application and will develop a centralized tracking system for this information. This action is in concert with the Environmental Protection Agency certification and tracking requirements and with the training and certification requirements defined in Chapter 3 of EP 1130-2-540, dated 15 November 1996 (Reference 2d.).

4. The new DOD Plan defines PPMP as DOD Military officers commissioned in the Medical Service or Biomedical Service Corps,

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or DOD civilian personnel with college degrees in biological or agricultural science who are in a current assignment that includes pest management responsibilities exercised regularly. This qualification standard for PPMP is important because it helps ensure a high level of competency among DOD personnel who serve as pest management consultants and certifying officials. The new DOD Plan specifies that certifying officials and pest management consultants must be PPMPs, although certifying officials need not be certified themselves.

5. Pest management consultants and PPMPs must be certified if they: apply or make recommendations for the use of (or directly supervise applications of) restricted-use pesticides; conduct field research with restricted-use pesticides; or, conduct public demonstrations with restricted-use pesticides. Certification is not required for other PPMP.

6. In accordance with the new DOD plan (reference 2.a), several changes are effective immediately in the current procedures for certification of Corps civil works employees (reference 2.d) classified as PPMP **for restricted-use pesticides**. The major change is that the Corps Civil Works pesticide applicator Certifying Official (CECW-ON), will now authorize training and certify PPMP for restricted-use pesticides instead of the Armed Forces Pest Management Board.

7. Civil Works PPMPs may obtain core training and certification in specific pest control categories by successfully passing a written examination following completion of either a DOD correspondence course or DOD formal training.

a. For initial certification in Category 11, Aerial Application Pest Control, PPMPs must attend the resident DOD Aerial Spray Course. Within this category, PPMPs must recertify in residence every other recertification period.

b. Recertification is required triennially, either by attendance at a formal course or through correspondence.

c. PPMP who choose to attend formal residence training at the Army Medical Center and School (AMEDD) at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, or at one of the other DOD-approved training centers may arrange to do so without formal authorization by CECW-ON. However, the PPMP must arrange for the school to forward test scores to the CECW-ON certifying official in order to become certified or recertified. Therefore, it is advisable for the PPMP to coordinate their training plans and options with the CECW-ON certification officials.

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d. PPMP who wish to enroll in correspondence training and examinations (through AMEDD or one of the other DOD approved training centers) must be authorized to do so by HQUSACE. The other training centers include Navy installations at Jacksonville, Florida, and Bangor, Washington, and Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas (enclosure 1 provides additional information). DOD training centers have been instructed not to mail such materials without express authorization from the CECW-ON certification official. Enclosure 2 is a form that can be faxed to CECW-ON to request correspondence training. At a minimal, PPMP authorization request for correspondence training to the CECW-ON certification official must include the following information:

- Name, grade, and duty position, college degree
- Project, District, and Division
- Address and POC at the training center where certification/recertification examinations will be administered.
- EPA categories in which the PPMP wishes to be trained/tested (for recertification)
- Copy of current DOD certification of competency (DD Form 1826, or 1826-1).

e. In order to be certified/recertified, an individual must achieve a minimal score of 70 percent correct in any one category. If an individual does not meet this criterion, that person must request permission from the CECW-ON certification official to retake the applicable exam(s) for the category(s). That individual will be given 90 days to retake the exam(s) from the date of the first unsuccessful attempt to pass the exam(s). A second unsuccessful exam result will prevent the individual from being certified in that category(s) without additional formal resident training. The respective training centers will send examination score(s) and recommendations for certification to the CECW-ON certification official.

f. Upon receipt of PPMP test scores from training centers, HQUSACE certifying official will sign and issue DOD Certificates of Competency (DD Forms 1826 and 1826-1) in appropriate categories. Certification periods begin on the date the examination was administered at the PPMP's training center (not from the date that certificates are issued by the certifying official).

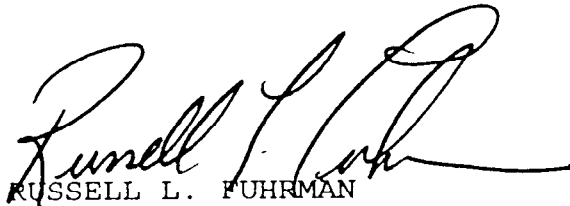
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8. The CECW-ON point of contact is Mr. Tim Toplisek, (202) 761-1789. The CECW-ON certifying officials are Ms. Denise Y. White (202) 761-1794, and Mr. Toplisek.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

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Major General, USA  
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